



MONTGOMERY COUNTY Call-n-Ride (CNR) PARTICIPANTS' GUIDE **EFFECTIVE: JULY 2014**

(This Policy supersedes all previous versions, and may be amended by the Montgomery County CNR Program as deemed necessary.)

1. CNR PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY:

The CNR Program is a County and State subsidized transportation program designed specifically as a supplement to Montgomery County's local transportation service. Subsidy assistance is provided on a sliding fee scale determined by total household income. The service helps transport low-income seniors, (67 years and older) and individuals with disabilities (18 years and older), to medical and/or personal appointments. All trips must begin and end in Montgomery County. Special exceptions have been made to allow transportation to the designated medical facilities. (Attachment A).

2. DESIGNATED SERVICE AREAS:

In order to meet the medical needs of participants, the CNR program will allow participants to travel to and from approved medical facilities in the Designated Service Areas. The designated locations are in Baltimore, Prince George's County, Northern Virginia, and Washington, DC. Please see ATTACHMENT A, for the detailed list of the Approved Medical Facilities.

3. FARES and FEES:

All taxi companies are required to charge the meter rates as defined by Montgomery County Maryland, Division of Transit Services/Taxicab Regulation Office. Drivers must always use meters.

Fares:

- Initial charge \$4.00.
- Traffic delay time \$28.00/hour
- Travel cost: \$2.00 for each mile.
- An extra passenger: \$1.00.
- Personal service for loading items: \$1.00.
- In the event that a snow emergency for Montgomery County is declared by the State of Maryland, a charge of \$2.50 is added to the meter rate.
- No charge for service animals.
- Passengers are responsible for all tolls while traveling.

The maximum trip limit for each one way Call-n-Ride trip within Montgomery County is \$60.00 (includes tip). Participants wishing to use their Call-n-Ride card to travel to the approved medical facilities in the “Designated Service Areas” must seek pre-authorization for these trips if the fare amount will exceed the \$60.00 trip limit. Participants must also seek pre-authorization if they need to go to a Healthcare Provider that is not on the Call-n-Ride approved medical facilities in “Designated Service Areas” list. Both Participants and Taxicab Dispatch can make Pre-authorization requests. Pre-authorization requests must be made by calling the Call-n-Ride office at 301-948-5409, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, and should be made at least 24 hours in advance. Call-n-Ride staff will send a manifest of approved trips to MJM and taxicab companies. It is the responsibility of the taxicab provider to ensure that the Participants have enough value on their cards to pay for their trips. Participants would be responsible for fare amounts that exceed the value on their cards. Any Trips made beyond the parameters specified in these guidelines will not be paid by the County.

4. PROGRAM OPERATIONS:

(a) **Application Process:** The application must be completed in its entirety. You must submit the following with your application:

- Proof of Montgomery County residence (PO Box not acceptable).
- Proof of age.
- Proof of all household income.
- Passport Photo.
- Proof of Physical or Mental Disability (Ages 18-66 years), to be filled out by a Licensed Physician.

For more details, please refer to the Call-n-Ride (CNR) Application and other relevant forms. Your application takes approximately ten (10) business days to process. If you meet the criteria and are approved for the program, you will receive a welcome packet with relevant participation information.

(b) **Recertification:** All participants are required to re-certify every two years in order to be reconsidered for the program. **Application and Recertification documents should be sent to:**

**Call-n-Ride
101 Monroe Street, 5th floor
Rockville, MD 20850**

(c) **Scheduling Your Transportation:** All eligible participants will be issued a non-transferable automated CNR swipe card. You may schedule your trip through the dispatch operator with any participating taxicab company (as listed on your order form). At the time of your call, you must identify yourself to the taxicab company dispatcher as a CNR participant; provide your name and CNR swipe card number, your exact pick-up and destination addresses, pick-up time, and any other information requested by the dispatch operator. Participants may request a ride from taxicab drivers at Metro stations or any other location within Montgomery County. The participant or the taxicab driver must call the dispatch, provide all the relevant information (as mentioned above), and get a trip ID from the dispatch sent directly to that taxicab for that trip. For trips to be

valid, all trips requests must go through dispatch, a trip ID issued by the dispatch, and all procedures followed.

(d) **Scheduling through Taxicab Dispatch:** All CNR trips must be scheduled by calling the dispatch office of the participating taxi company; Customers may not alter trip destination upon arrival of the cab. All changes must be processed through the taxicab company's dispatcher.

(e) **Translation Service:** The CNR program recognizes the cultural diversity of Montgomery County residents. To facilitate the CNR program services for Non-English speaking participants, a translation service has been established to assist with the scheduling of CNR trips with the taxicab companies' dispatchers. This translation service can only be used to communicate with CNR staff.

To use the CNR translation service;

- Dial 1– 866-998-0338
- Enter Account # 15071
- Enter Pin # 6101
- Enter your Client ID (Your CNR ID #)

You will be connected to the next available Client Services Representative. Please provide your first & last name and state the language you need. You will be asked to hold, while you are being connected to an interpreter. Once connected, the interpreter can help you schedule your trips with the taxicab company dispatch or assist you in communicating with the Call-n-Ride staff. The taxicab companies' dispatch operators and CNR staff also have access to the translation service in order to assist you with trip scheduling or other CNR needs.

(f) **Wheelchair Accessible Transport:** There are a limited number of wheelchair accessible taxis in Montgomery County. Participants should call the Cab company dispatch at least twenty four (24) hours or more in advance to provide the taxi company dispatcher sufficient time to arrange for an accessible taxicab. You may also call the Call-n-Ride program office at 301-948-5409, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, to help arrange a trip for you with the taxicab company. You may schedule the return trip at the time of the initial call to the dispatch operator. If you use a folding wheelchair and are unable to independently transfer to the vehicle, you should inform the dispatcher when scheduling your trip so that the Taxicab Company can dispatch the appropriate accessible vehicle. The Taxicab Company will provide you with the approximate pick-up time.

(g) **Pick-up Time:** You must be ready to travel about 15 minutes before your scheduled pick-up time. If the cab does not arrive within 10 minutes of your scheduled pick-up time, call the taxicab company to report the delay.

(h) **Identification and Trip Processing:** The participant, at the time of pick-up, must present his/her CNR swipe card to the taxicab driver. The taxicab driver will visually verify the photo on the swipe card; participants who have CNR swipe cards without a photograph must provide a valid government photo Identification to the taxicab driver. **The CNR participant or the driver must swipe the card at the beginning of the trip**

(before the fare meter is turned on) to verify that the account is active, perform a balance inquiry, capture the date and time of the transaction, taxicab provider, vehicle number, taxicab driver number, pickup and destination GPS coordinates and card number. MJ Management Services' system validates the card and returns the account available balance to the taxicab driver and cardholder. The taxicab driver will inform the participant if there is enough balance on the card to pay for the trip. Card balances can also be obtained by calling the 800 number for CNR/MJM on the back of the Swipe Card (1800-980-6564), 24 hours a day. If the card does not have enough balance to pay for the trip, the participant will be responsible to pay the remaining balance in cash at the end of the trip, or the trip is cancelled immediately. If the electronic transaction fails for any other reason other than low balance, the driver will provide the trip to the participant and fill out a manual receipt (please see # j for details). The CNR swipe card is specifically for the sole use of the participant to whom the card was issued. The card is non-transferable. If the participant does not have his/her CNR card, the trip is no longer deemed an eligible CNR trip. The CNR participant must make alternative form of payment for the trip.

(i) Arrival at Destination: Upon arrival at your destination, approve the amount on the meter **ONLY IF IT IS ACCURATE**. After the fare meter is turned off, either you or the driver will again swipe your card to electronically record the payment. You may also give the driver a tip not to exceed 15% of your taxi fare, which will be added to your fare amount. The driver will print two receipts. You will receive a copy of a receipt from the driver and you must sign the driver's copy in order to validate your trip. Keep your copy of the receipt for six months. Montgomery County conducts audits and you may be required to provide your trip information. Do not leave the taxi without your CNR swipe card. **NEVER SIGN A BLANK OR INCORRECT RECEIPT.** If the receipt was blank or incorrect, do not sign the receipt and contact MJ Management Services at 1-800-980-6564 within twenty four (24) hours of your trip.

All of the following information is required and should appear on the receipt: *Date, Cab #, Start Time, End Time, Trip #, Distance (Miles), Rate/Fare Amount, Extra Fees, Tip amount (if provided), Total Fare, CNR Swipe Card # (last four digits), CNR Swipe Card Balance, Authorization/Approval Number, and Participant's Signature. Additionally, on Manual receipts include; Reason for writing a manual receipt (e.g. "System Down") and Imprint of the CNR Swipe Card.*

(j) If the electronic transaction with the swipe card fails, and there are funds on your card you will be transported to your destination. The taxicab driver will complete a manual receipt with all required fields filled out, make an imprint of the CNR swipe card on the receipt, get your signature on the receipt, and provide you with a copy of the signed receipt. It may take up to two weeks or more for the money to be deducted from your account for a trip that was processed manually.

(k) Round Trip Rule: Participants are allowed to take round trips (two or three linked trips maximum), **WITH THE SAME DRIVER**. However, each leg of the trip must be scheduled through dispatch. Each pick-up and drop-off address must be provided when calling dispatch to schedule the transportation, the destination locations cannot be changed after the initial pick-up is scheduled. Each leg of the trip is considered one trip and the driver will be issued a trip ID for each trip. The driver will swipe and process the fare at each destination i.e. pick- up at Location A, driver will swipe card for

authorization, transport to Location B and swipe the card at Location B to generate a receipt and process the fare for that first trip. This process will be repeated at each location for round or linked trips. The wait time for the driver, between linked trips, should be no more than 1-8 minutes. If more time is needed, the same driver may not be able to wait.

(l) **Taxicab Complaints:** For CNR taxicab complaints please provide us the following information: Taxicab Company, Cab #, driver's name or ID, date & time of the incident, and the complaint. Once we have received all of this information, we will conduct our investigation and take appropriate remedial action.

(m) **Replacement of CNR Swipe Cards:** Lost or stolen CNR swipe cards must be reported immediately by calling CNR/MJ Management Services at 1-800-980-6564. Cards reported lost or stolen are immediately cancelled. There is a \$5 replacement fee for lost, stolen or damaged cards, payable to MJ Management Services, 1501 Sulgrave Avenue, Suite 200, Baltimore, MD 21209. Once the payment is received, a new card will be issued and the available funds will be transferred to the new card. Do not attempt to use a CNR swipe card that is reported lost, damaged or stolen; the transactions will be declined and you will be responsible for the full amount of the fare.

(n) **Online Resources:** Montgomery County's CNR Swipe Card Participant Portal can be accessed at: www.eztransport.net/mococnr/members

The CNR Swipe Card Participant Portal is an internet interface that allows participants to manage their cards. Participants can add value to their cards as well as check account information. Participants must first register online to access their accounts. Once registered, participants can view their balances, print statement, view transactions, manage profile, report a lost, stolen or damaged card, contact customer service, and/or make a payment.

Additionally, you may also access program information, updates and make online payments by visiting <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot> (click on "Senior Transportation", and scroll down to "Call-n-Ride" section)

5. PAYMENTS:

Value will be added to your CNR Swipe Card upon receipt of your check, money order or credit card payment. Please allow up to 5-7 business days for your payment to be processed. You are allowed only one (1) payment per month at your specified pay rate. You can select either a \$60 subsidy value or a \$120 subsidy value to be applied to your swipe card for the coming month. The Call-n-Ride program recommends that you mail in your payments after the 15th of the month for value to be applied to your swipe card for the following month. If there is a remaining balance on your card at the end of the month, that remaining balance will roll-over to the following month.

The maximum value or balance (your payment plus subsidy) that can be accumulated and carried on the CNR swipe card is \$360. If you are attempting to make a payment that would bring the total balance on your card over the \$360 maximum, either your payment will be returned to you or your payment will be held until it can be applied as a future payment. Always check balance on your account before sending in another

payment. Money placed on your CNR swipe card is active for three (3) months from your last taxi ride.

Online Payment: For online payments please visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot (click on “Senior Transportation”, click on “Call-n-Ride” and click “Place your order online”). You will need your 4-5 digit Call-n-Ride ID # to be able to login and pay online.

Check or Money Order Payments: Please make your checks or Money Orders payable to “Montgomery County Maryland” and send to:

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY MARYLAND
P.O. BOX 824871
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19182-4871**

PLEASE NOTE: If your check is returned due to Insufficient Funds, you will be invoiced for the \$35 returned check bank fee. You will not be able to use or add money to your CNR swipe card until you make the payment. For future orders, money orders will be required; no personal checks will be accepted.

6. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OR PERMANENT REMOVAL:

The following will result in permanent removal from the program:

Any form of program fraud or abuse; including but not limited to, allowing someone else the use of your CNR Swipe card; providing false information on the CNR eligibility application forms; illegal transfer of CNR ID cards.

The following will result in temporary suspension from the program and may lead to permanent removal:

Abuse of CNR service or any violation of the Program Guidelines set forth herein. Engaging in disruptive, abusive, threatening or disrespectful behavior to CNR program staff, taxicab drivers, or taxicab companies.

Any participant or other persons involved in the CNR transportation program that engages in fraudulent program activities will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

7. TAXICAB COMPANIES INFORMATION:

Please feel free to call any one of the following participating Montgomery County Taxicab Companies in the CNR Program:

Action Taxi.	301-840-1000
Barwood Taxi.	301-984-1900
Regency Taxi.	301-990-9000
Sun Cab	301-252-0575